Keys to Unlocking Tricky Words

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1. Look at the picture.

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2. **Look at the beginning letter**, say the first sound, and think about the pictures.

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3. Look at what you know inside the words (**patterns, chunks, blends**).

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4. **Slide your finger** along the word as you sound out the letters and chunks.

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5. **Cover up part of the word** and sound it out in sections.

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6. Skip the word and read the rest of the sentence. What word would **make sense** and **match the letters and sounds** in the word.

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7. **Try another word** if your word does not make sense, sound right or look right.

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8. Most of all **maintain the flow.** If you get too caught up on tricky words, choose a slightly easier book.

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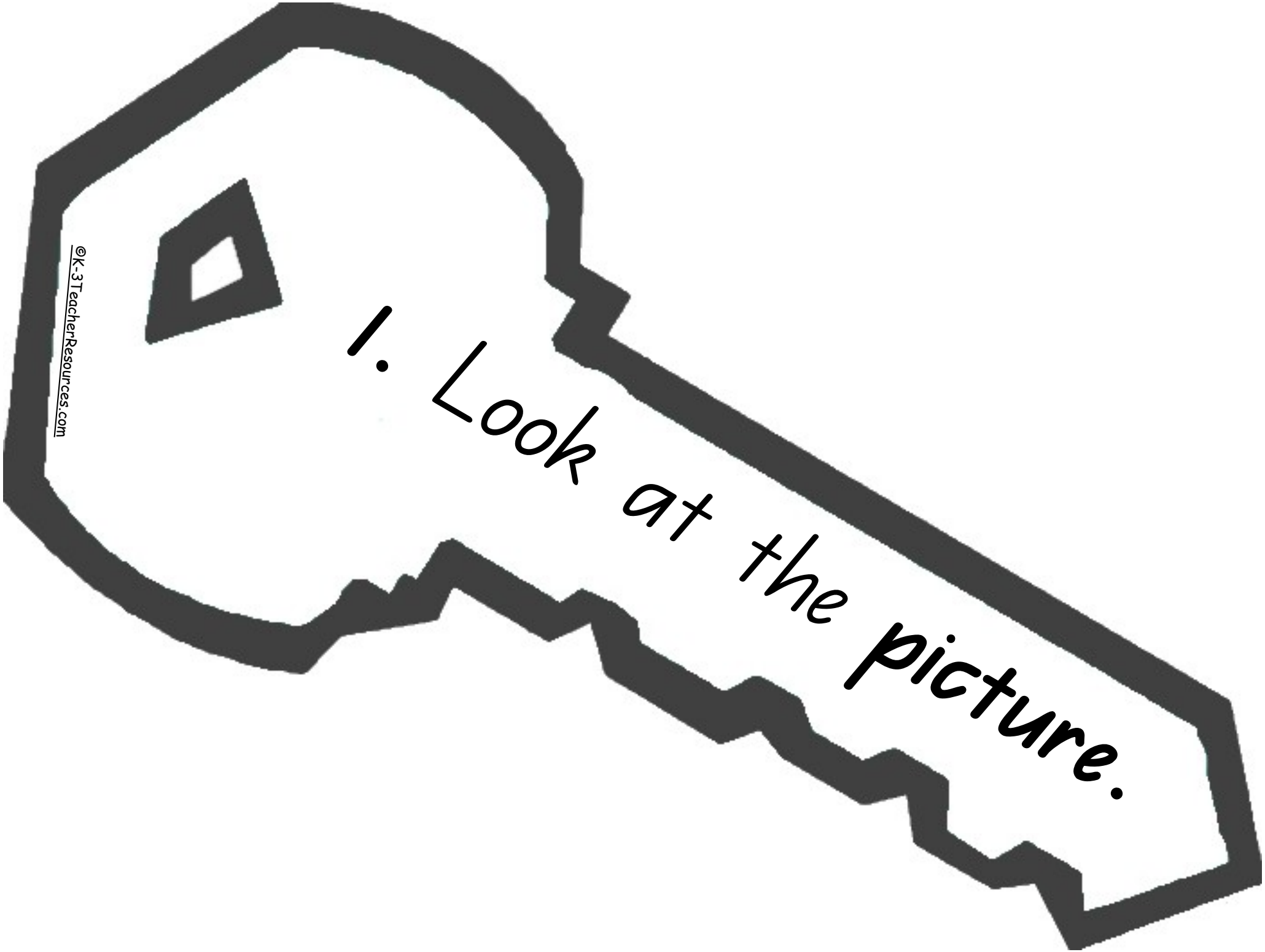

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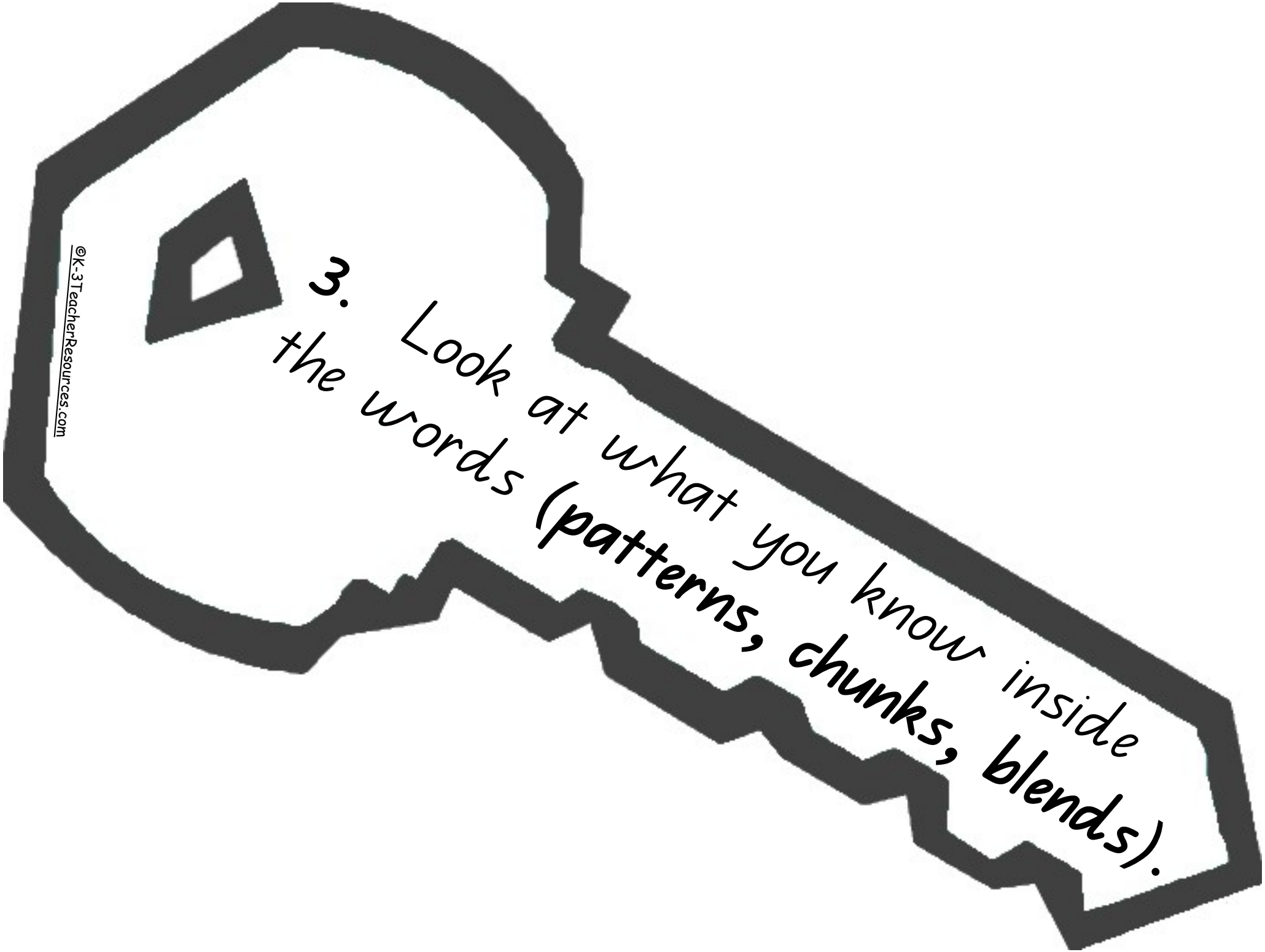
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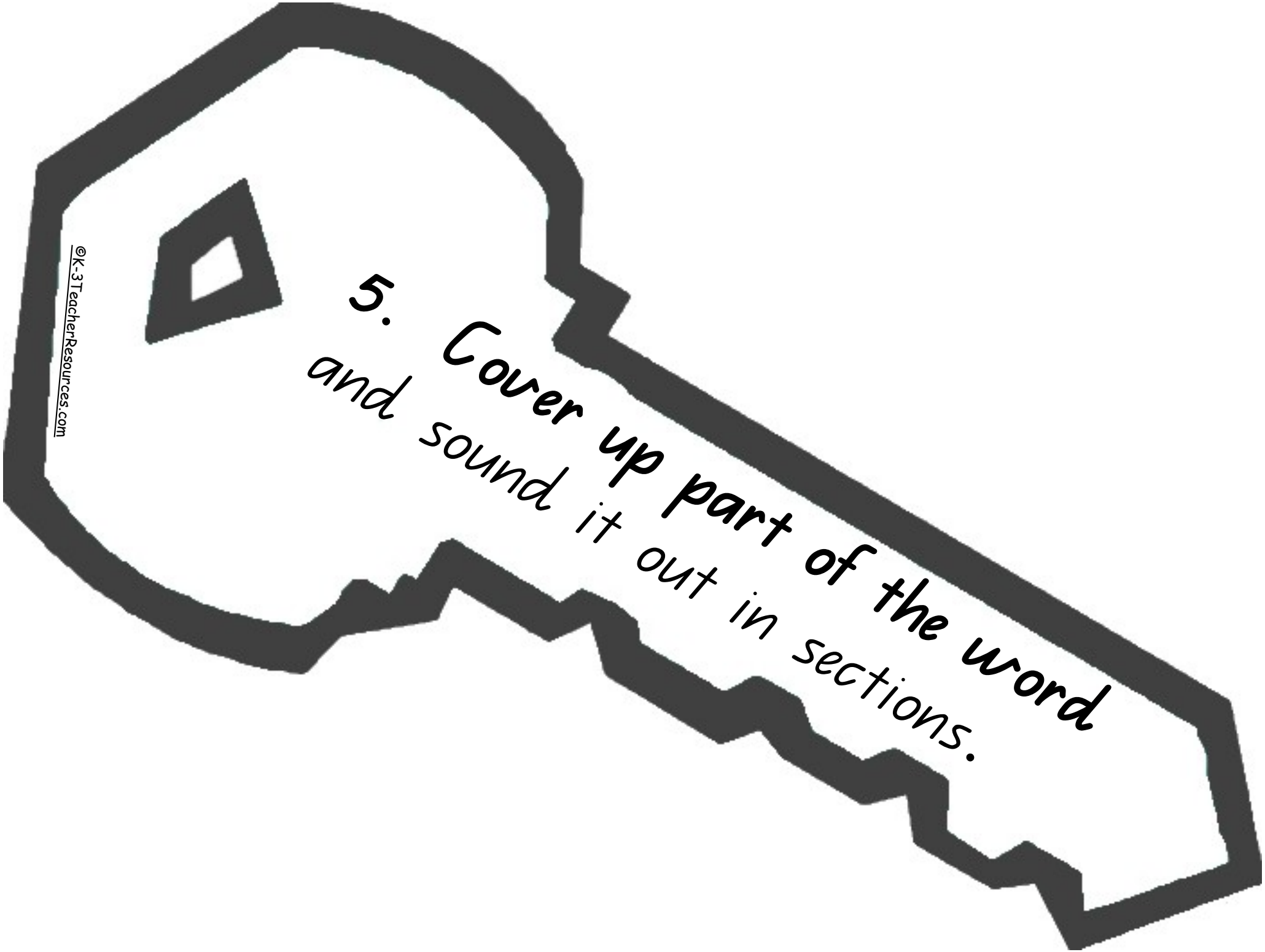
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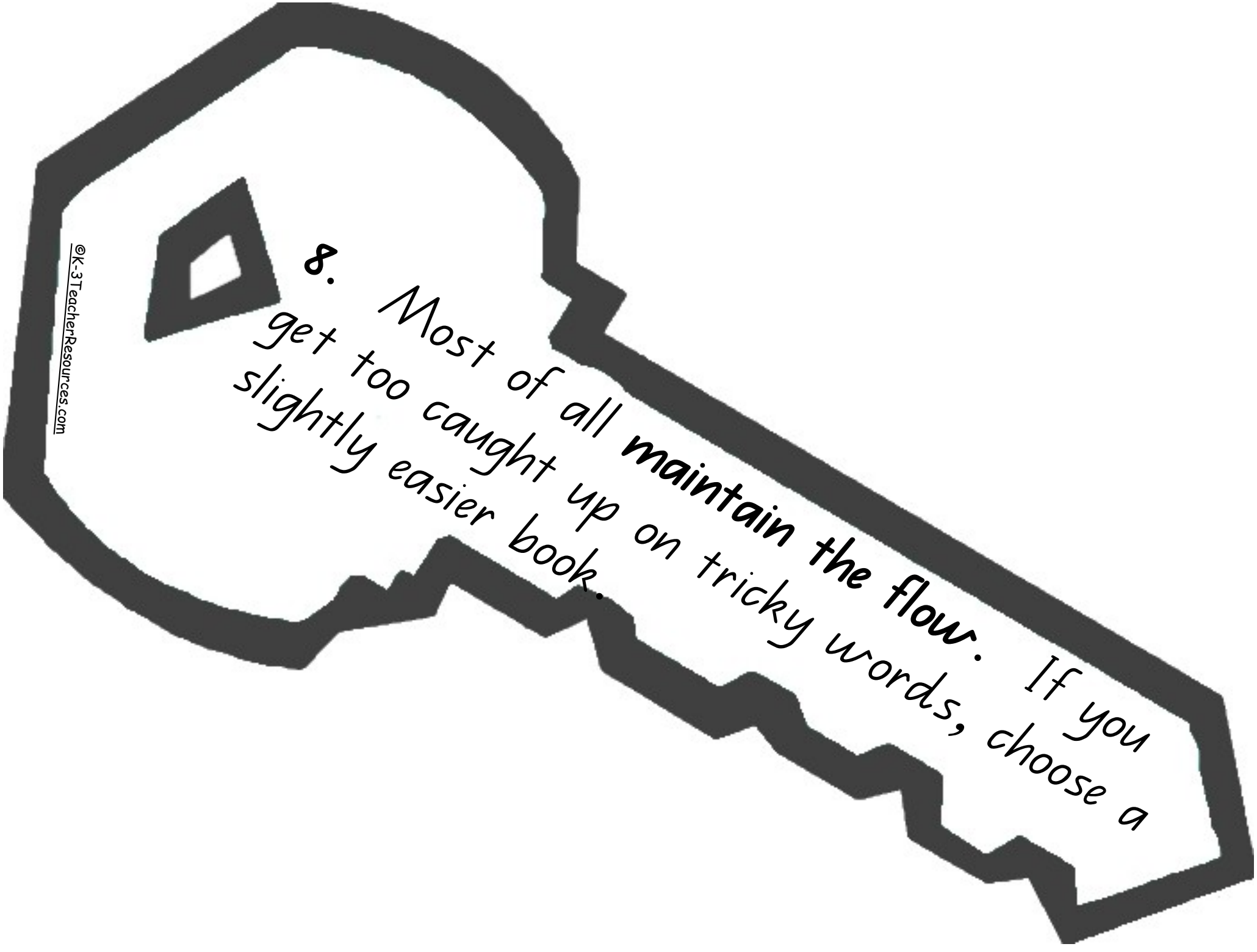
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